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The paragraph beginning at page 5, lines 7-13, has been amended as follows:

– Figures 4[.]A-B depict that  $I_{5HT}$  is mediated by activation of a G-protein. (A) The effect of PTX treatment (500 ng/ml, 20-26 h) on  $I_{hK}$  and  $I_{5HT}$ . The cells were injected with 120 ng/oocyte total atrial RNA, 11 ng/oocyte 5HT1A-R RNA, and, where indicated, with 11 ng/oocyte  $G_{12\alpha}$  RNA. (B) GDP- $\beta$ -S injection inhibits  $I_{5HT}$  but not  $I_{hK}$  in an oocyte injected with atrial + 5HT1A-R RNAs. 5HT concentration was 0.4  $\mu$ M. A small outward current deflection (denoted by ★) upon washout of 5HT was caused by an inadvertent perfusion of ND96 for a few seconds.–

**In the Claims:**

18. (Amended) A method for screening for agents that inhibit the activity of a Kir3.0 channel, the method comprising:

a) combining [forming a functional Kir3.0 channel from] at least two different inward rectifier, G-protein activated, mammalian, potassium Kir3.0 polypeptides to form a functional Kir3.0 channel;

b) combining the candidate agent with said Kir3.0 channel under conditions that permit inward  $K^+$  current;

c) determining the induced current, wherein a reduction in said induced current in the presence of said agent as compared to a control is indicative that said agent inhibits the activity of a Kir3.0 channel.